

October 2003

Teacher Training Pilot Program Grants

Background

State law (RCW 28B.80.620) authorizes the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) to administer a competitive grant program to expand or create collaborative teacher training and recruitment programs through Washington public high schools, community colleges, and four-year colleges and universities. The 2003-05 state operating budget (SB 5404) includes a total of \$300,000 for competitive grants to support the teacher training pilot program. The 1999-2001, and 2001-2003 state operating budgets also included \$300,000 for competitive grants. The teacher training pilot program will expire on January 1, 2005.

Grant Proposal Review and Approval Process

In July 1999, the HECB adopted *Resolution 99-27*, which outlined the process to review and approve proposals for the teacher training pilot program. Based on this Board resolution, HECB staff completed the following process for distribution of the 2003-2005 grants:

- **July 25** – HECB staff distributed the Request for Proposal (RFP) to the public two- and four-year colleges and universities and independent four-year colleges and universities. Public colleges and universities could partner with the independent colleges and universities.
- **September 21** – The HECB received 11 proposals – eight from community colleges and three from public four-year institutions – prior to the 5:00 p.m. deadline.
- **September 30** – A review committee, comprised of representatives from K-12 and two- and four-year institutions, the private baccalaureate institutions and HECB staff, reviewed and ranked the proposals. Organizations represented on the review committee included the state Professional Educator Standards Board, the State Community and Technical College System, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Washington Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

Review Committee Recommendations

Based on its evaluation of the proposals, the review committee recommends funding the four proposals described below:

Eastern Washington University: Discover the Teacher Within – \$94,500

Eastern Washington University, in partnership with the Spokane Public Schools and Spokane Falls Community College, will do the following: 1) create a college-level, introduction to education course, for high school students interested in a teaching career; and 2) provide mentoring and service learning activities in which EWU education students will work with high school students who have a demonstrated interest in becoming teachers.

Highline Community College: Teacher Cohort Program – \$75,921

Highline Community College, in partnership with the Federal Way School District, will create a weekend distance learning teacher education program targeted to people who are unemployed and teachers' aides. The partnership will: 1) offer to a 30-student cohort a total of 14 courses that meet the requirements for the Associate of Arts transfer degree and pre-admission requirements for entry into Central Washington University's teacher education program at the CWU SeaTac Center; 2) thematically link all of the courses around education topics; and 3) provide several opportunities for service learning and mentoring.

Seattle Community College District: Online/Fast Track Teaching Academy to A.A. Pre-teaching Degree Program Model – \$ 58,235

The Seattle Community College District, in partnership with the University of Washington, Western Washington University, and the Seattle Public Schools, will do the following: 1) develop a 15-month Associate of Arts degree program for high school students, allowing them to enter a four-year teacher education program one year after graduating from high school; 2) produce a high school "Teaching Career Academy" curriculum with online and multi-media features that will enable high school seniors to earn high school and community college credits concurrently; and 3) develop two to three education courses that focus on critical topics in the teaching profession.

Tacoma Community College: Project Teaching/Learning Community – \$ 72,931

Tacoma Community College, in partnership with the Tacoma Public Schools, The Evergreen State College, Chandler-Gilbert Community College, and the Washington State Teachers Recruiting Teachers organization, will create a learning community for a cohort of entering education students to research, read, write, view, and discuss topics related to teaching. Members of the partnership will: 1) restructure and redesign three courses (Freshman Composition, Introduction to Education, and Public Speaking) for integration in the learning community curricula; 2) develop three courses (Electronic Portfolio Development, Diversity in Education, and PowerPoint and Other Presentation Skills) for integration in the learning community curricula; and 3) provide college-level mentoring and field experiences in public schools for prospective teachers.

Next Steps

Following Board approval, HECB staff and the institutional grant recipients will sign interagency agreements. Funds for the first year will become available as soon as the interagency agreements are signed. Funds for the second year will become available by August 31, 2004, provided the Board has received the progress reports due on August 1, 2004.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-33

WHEREAS, The Governor and the Legislature appropriated \$300,000 in the 2003-2005 state operating budget for competitive grants to support the teacher training pilot program; and

WHEREAS, The Higher Education Coordinating Board, through *Resolution 99-27*, has adopted a process for review and approval of the teacher training grant proposals; and

WHEREAS, Board staff and external experts in the field have evaluated the 2003-2005 grant proposals, in accordance with the adopted process, and recommend that the Board fund four teacher training education pilot programs in the 2003-2005 Biennium;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the recommendations of its review committee and directs staff to award 2003-2005 grants to the following teacher training pilot programs: Eastern Washington University (\$94,500), Highline Community College (\$75,921), Seattle Community College District (\$58,235), and Tacoma Community College (\$72,931).

Adopted:

October 29, 2003

Attest:

Bob Craves, Chair

Ann Ramsay-Jenkins, Secretary